



Rounds 4 Research FAQ Sheet

The Environmental Institute for Golf is the philanthropic organization of GCSAA.

What is the Environmental Institute for Golf?

The Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG) fosters sustainability by providing funding for research grants, education programs, scholarships and awareness of golf's environmental efforts. Founded in 1955 as the GCSAA Scholarship & Research Fund for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the EIFG serves as the association's philanthropic organization. The purposes of the EIFG include the advancement of education and research in the field of turfgrass improvement and management, the collection and dissemination of information, environmental protection and the promotion of public awareness and safety.

What is Rounds 4 Research?

Rounds 4 Research is a fundraising program conducted by the EIFG whereby a round of golf (defined as a tee time with green fees for two or four players) is made available to be bid on by the public through an online auction.

This is an expansion of the program that was introduced by the Carolinas GCSA. The scope had grown beyond what the Carolinas GCSA could administer, and therefore they have offered the program to the EIFG. GCSAA and the EIFG support this program, which helps ensure the future of the game, due to increasing challenges that threaten the golf industry's ability to do business.

Who receives the funding, and what does it support?

The EIFG will collect all proceeds from the auction and grant the monies to participating chapters or turfgrass foundations to support the areas of research grants, education programs, scholarships and awareness of golf's environmental efforts within their local or regional areas.

Why should golf facilities donate?

Golfers and golf facilities are the ultimate beneficiaries from the investment of these funds. Operators have already benefited from increased efficiencies through new golf course management programs; new turfgrasses that fight disease pressures, wear and tear and extreme weather conditions; and products that are more effective and safer for the environment. Increasing regulation, rising costs and environmental concerns must be addressed if golf is to sustain itself as a viable industry and recreational activity for people to enjoy. Without such funds, the innovation that has helped facilities to operate more efficiently, enhance environmental performance and provide more enjoyable playing conditions would come to a standstill.

How will the rounds be made available for auction?

Utilizing the online auction platform BiddingForGood.com, the public will be able to participate in the Rounds 4 Research auction. Tee times from a variety of courses and locations will be open for bids for a designated time. The specifics regarding the particular tee time will be detailed for bidders on the site. BiddingForGood.com is recognized as a leading online auction site and has more than 650,000 registered bidders, 300,000 of which are noted as "active."

The number-one searched item on BiddingForGood.com is a round of golf. This platform will provide golfers with a reliable source of golf rounds and/or golf-related travel packages that provide either a premium golf experience that for some is a chance-of-a-lifetime experience or simply continuous access to a variety of golf facilities at reasonable and often reduced rates.